

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A molding for positioning along a corner formed by an intersection of wall and a floor, the molding having a longitudinal axis and comprising a core formed from compressed wood fibers ~~particles~~; and, a surface formed of a thermosetting resin and a decor sheet; said molding having a generally planar floor engaging surface and a wall-engaging surface, positioned substantially perpendicular to the floor engaging surface;

a preformed resilient pad having a hollow core coupled to the floor engaging surface, ~~the pad formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic rubber, compressed open cell foamed plastics, closed cell foamed plastics, elastomer polymer materials and hollow core polymeric materials;~~

wherein, the pad resiliently creates a substantially moisture-tight seal so as to prevent moisture from seeping between said floor and said molding when the molding is in an installed position.

2. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 1, further comprising an adhesive positioned on the pad and configured to engage the floor when the molding is in the installed position.

3. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 1, wherein the wall-engaging surface defines apertures therethrough to allow a connector to pass through the wall-engaging surface therethrough, the connector fastening the molding to the corner when the molding is in the installed position.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The molding as in claim 3, further comprising an intermediate surface connecting the wall-engaging surface and the floor engaging surface.

6. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 5, wherein the intermediate surface is substantially planar and angled so that the wall, floor, and intermediate surface form a generally triangular shape in a plane transverse to the longitudinal axis.

7. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 3, further comprising a face on the molding and positioned to face outwardly from the corner.

8. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 7, wherein the face comprises at least one curved section.

9. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 1, wherein the pad is positioned distal a front edge of the floating floor engaging surface, wherein the front edge of the floating floor engaging surface is distal the corner.

10. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 1, wherein the molding has a generally uniform cross-section at planes transverse to the longitudinal axis.

11. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 1, wherein the pad is formed of a material that is a resilient material made from one of a closed-cell foamed plastic or an open cell foamed plastic.

12. (Currently Amended) The molding as in claim 1, wherein said pad ~~has a hollow core~~ is formed of at least one material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic rubber, compressed open cell foamed plastics, closed cell foamed plastics, and elastomeric polymer materials.

13. (Previously Presented) A method of installing the molding as in claim 1, comprising applying glue to the pad immediately before placing the molding in the installed condition.

14. (Previously Presented) The molding according to claim 1, wherein the pad includes a preformed layer of adhesive; and wherein, a removable film covers the adhesive.

15. (Currently Amended) The combination of:
a floating floor; and
a molding for positioning along a corner formed by an intersection of a wall and ~~[[a]]~~ the floating floor, the molding having a longitudinal axis and comprising:
a core formed from fiberboard ~~compressed wood particles~~; and,
a surface formed of a thermosetting resin and a decor sheet;
said molding having a generally planar floating floor engaging surface and a wall-engaging surface, positioned substantially perpendicular to ~~the floating floor engaging surface~~;
a resilient pad coupled to the floating-floor engaging surface, the pad formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic rubber; compressed open cell foamed plastics; closed cell foamed plastics; elastomer polymer materials and hollow core polymeric materials;
wherein, the pad resiliently creates a substantially moisture-tight seal so as to prevent moisture from seeping between said floor and said molding when the molding is in an installed position and the floating floor having a decor which is identical to the decor of the decor sheet of the molding.

16-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing moisture from seeping into a gap between a floating floor and a wall ~~molding~~, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a molding comprising a core having a decorative surface thereon ~~formed of compressed wood particles~~, a floating-floor engaging surface, and a preformed pad, the pad being coupled to the floating-floor engaging surface, the pad being formed from a material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic rubber; compressed open cell foamed plastics; closed cell foamed plastics; elastomer polymer materials and hollow core polymeric materials; [[and]]

installing the molding into contact with the floating floor and the wall, the pad positioned to contact the floating floor, such that the decorative surface is at least partially exposed; and compressing the pad, such that water is prevented from seeping to the gap between the floating floor and the wall in the absence of adhesive between the floating floor and the pad.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the pad comprises a resilient material that is one of a closed cell foamed plastic [[or]] and an open cell foamed plastic.

29-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The molding of claim 1, wherein the core is formed from one selected from the group consisting of high density fiberboard and medium density fiberboard.

37. (Currently Amended) A molding for forming a moisture resistant seal between a floor and a wall, the molding comprising:

a core formed from at least one material selected from the group consisting of plywood, plastic, metal and wood ~~compressed wood particles~~, comprising at least one decorative surface,

a floor engaging surface and a wall engaging surface;

the at least one decorative surface comprising:

a thermosetting resin and a décor sheet; and

a preformed resilient pad having a hollow core, coupled to the molding. ~~with an adhesive, the pad being formed from a material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic~~

~~rubber; compressed open cell foamed plastics; closed cell foamed plastics; elastomer polymer materials and hollow core polymeric materials.~~

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The molding of claim 37, wherein the pad is adjacent to the floor engaging surface.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a moisture tight seal between a floating floor and a wall, comprising:
positioning the molding of claim 37 at an intersection of the floating floor and the wall and compressing the pad.

42. (Currently Amended) The method according to 41, comprising applying an adhesive to the pad immediately before installing the molding.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) A molding for positioning along a corner formed by an intersection of wall and a floating floor, the molding having a longitudinal axis and comprising
a core formed from fiberboard ~~compressed wood particles~~; and,
a surface formed of a thermosetting resin and a decor sheet;
said molding having a generally planar floating floor engaging surface and a wall-engaging surface, positioned substantially perpendicular to the floating floor engaging surface;
a resilient pad coupled to the floating-floor engaging surface, the pad formed of a material selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic rubber; compressed open cell foamed

plastics; closed cell foamed plastics; elastomer polymer materials and hollow core polymeric materials;

wherein, the pad resiliently creates a substantially moisture-tight seal so as to prevent moisture from seeping between said floor and said molding when the molding is in an installed position,

wherein said décor sheet comprises at least one of a color and a pattern ~~complementary~~ identical to an upper surface of an adjacent floating floor.

45. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 7, wherein the face comprises at least one flat section.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The molding of claim [[47]] 1, in the form of a quarter-round molding.

49. (Previously Presented) The molding as in claim 7, wherein the face comprises at least one planar section.

50. (Cancelled)

51. (New) The molding of claim 37, wherein the pad is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of at least one of natural or synthetic rubber, compressed open cell foamed plastics, closed cell foamed plastics, and elastomeric polymer materials.

52. (New) The molding of claim 1, wherein the molding comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of a wall base, door casing, and door stop.